

MILPERSMAN 1212-050

INFORMATION DOMINANCE CORPS (IDC) OPTION PROGRAMS

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References	(a) NAVMED P-117, Manual of the Medical Department (b) COMNAVSURFORINST 1412.1C
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1. **Policy.** The Information Dominance Corps (IDC) Option Program provides a steady accession source of warfare qualified officers into the IDC. The IDC officer communities (designators) that participate in the IDC Option Program are

- a. 1800 oceanography (OCN);
- b. 1810 information warfare (IW);
- c. 1820 information professional (IP); and
- d. 1830 intelligence (INT).

Highly qualified officers are designated as surface warfare officers (SWO) upon commissioning, and these officers are redesignated without board action to their respective IDC community upon completion of specified career milestones.

2. **Applicability of this Article.** This article is applicable to Regular officers who have been designated as IDC Option Program officers at the time of their commissioning from

- United States Naval Academy (USNA),
- Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC),
- Officer Candidate School (OCS),
- Seaman-to-Admiral (STA-21), or
- Merchant Marine Academy.

3. Requirements

a. A limited number of individuals from USNA, NROTC, OCS, STA-21, and the Merchant Marine Academy may apply for an IDC Option Program. During their initial tour(s), officers are required to complete the SWO qualification and perform the full range of duties and responsibilities associated with traditional surface warfare. Redesignation to their respective IDC community will occur automatically upon completion of the prerequisites listed in paragraph 6. IDC Option officers (where possible) should be assigned by the surface warfare community to shipboard billets which are conducive to their career progression as future IDC officers such as electronic warfare officers, communications officers, electronic material officers, combat systems officers, information systems officers, and electronic key management system custodians.

b. **Subsequent Assignment**

(1) **OCN.** Officers redesignated to 1800 will be detailed to Basic Oceanographic Accession training followed by an initial OCN experience tour.

(2) **IW.** Officers redesignated to 1810 will be detailed to IW Basic Course followed by a tour at a Navy information operations command that is co-located with a National Security Agency cryptologic center.

(3) **IP.** Officers redesignated to 1820 will be detailed to the IP Basic Course followed by an initial IP operational experience tour.

(4) **INT.** Officers redesignated to 1830 will be detailed to Navy Intelligence Officer Basic Course in Virginia Beach, VA with follow-on assignment to the fleet.

4. Qualifications

a. **Citizenship:** Must be a United States citizen.

b. **Sex:** Male and female officers are eligible.

c. **Age:** Must meet age limitations specified for commissioning via USNA, NROTC, OCS, STA-21, or Merchant Marine Academy programs (as applicable) per MILPERSMAN 1131-010 or associated program authorization.

d. **Education:** Minimum requirement is a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university. Applicant must have an academic average of 2.2 or better on a 4.0 scale. Community specific education requirements are as follows:

(1) **OCN:** Major fields of study related to science, meteorology, OCN, mathematics, physics, and engineering are strongly preferred but not required. Completion of a calculus series and calculus-based physics series with a C+ average or better in both series is required.

(2) **IW:** Major fields of study related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) are strongly preferred but not required. Completion of a calculus series and calculus-based physics series with a C average or better in both series is preferred but not required.

(3) **IP:** Major fields of study related to computer science, electrical engineering, information technology management, information management, computer security, or a related technical field are strongly preferred. Completion of a calculus series and calculus-based physics series with a C average or better in both series is preferred but not required.

(4) **INT:** Major fields of study related to STEM are strongly preferred but not required. Degrees in political science, language or regional studies, international relations, or history are acceptable. Completion of a calculus series and calculus-based physics series with a C average or better in both series, is preferred but not required.

e. **Physical:** Per chapter 15 of reference (a).

f. **Marital Status:** No restrictions.

g. **Clearance:** The IW, IP, and INT communities require all officers to have a single-scope background investigation and be sensitive compartmented information eligible. The OCN community requires all officers to have a minimum of a secret clearance.

5. **Appointment.** Officers are appointed as ensigns with designator 1160. IDC Option officers are assigned an additional qualification designator (AQD) identifying their affiliation with the specific IDC community. Surface warfare assignments will also ensure IDC Option officers are awarded the SWO Option

AQDs upon commissioning. Community specific AQDs are as follows:

- (1) OCN: LOD
- (2) IW: LOC
- (3) IP: LOB
- (4) INT: LOE

6. IDC Option Execution

a. IDC Option officers will **automatically** be redesignated without board action into the restricted line and be designated 18XX, depending on community, upon completion of the following prerequisites:

- (1) Surface warfare qualification per reference (b).
- (2) Be within at least 6 months of promotion to lieutenant. This requirement may be reduced to the completion of a single division officer tour pending future availability of officer programmed authorizations for the lieutenant (junior grade) pay grade within the respective IDC community.

b. IDC Option officers, once redesignated, will be made available by the surface warfare community for transfer to their first IDC assignment no later than 6 months from the date of redesignation.

c. IDC Option officers will not be redesignated if they have submitted their unqualified or contingent resignation request to Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM), Career Progression Department (PERS-8). Redesignation will occur if they subsequently withdraw their resignation request upon approval by NAVPERSCOM (PERS-8). Approved resignations may only be withdrawn upon permission of the Chief of Naval Personnel.

d. Officers who desire to remain in the surface warfare community must submit a request to the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS), Surface Warfare Officer Community Manager (OCM) (BUPERS-311) and respective IDC OCMs. Both OCMs must agree to approve the request. If the request is approved, officers may remain in the surface warfare community.

e. Officers designated as an IDC Option are not eligible to apply for redesignation via the active duty lateral transfer board without first requesting and being released from the option program by the respective IDC OCM.

7. **Active Duty Obligation.** Upon redesignation to 18XX, officers incur a minimum service obligation of 2 years from date of designator change to be served concurrently with any other obligations. Officers who remain in the surface warfare community must satisfy the initial active duty obligation that corresponds to their commissioning source.